

for our country to respond to environmental problems that, ultimately, can affect us and the rest of the world.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO RYAN MILLER, RECIPIENT OF THE HOBEBY BAKER AWARD

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2001

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplishments of Ryan Miller of East Lansing, Michigan, for being named the top college hockey player in America in 2001. Ryan Miller, a Michigan State University sophomore, received the Hobey Baker Award, only the second time in history a goalie has earned this prestigious honor.

Ryan's brilliant 2001 season included leading the nation in four key statistical categories, the most spectacular being 10 shutouts in 39 games, bringing him to an NCAA career record with 18 shutouts as goalie for the MSU Spartans. Ryan also was named CCHA Defensive Player of the Week five times during the regular season.

Born and raised in East Lansing, the home of MSU, Ryan comes from a hockey family. His grandfather, father, uncle and five cousins all played hockey for the Spartans, and a cousin, Kip Miller, won the Hobey in 1990. In addition to his hockey legacy, Ryan also deserves recognition for his academic achievements both in high school and at MSU.

I urge my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Mr. Ryan Miller for his achievements, in particular for receiving the Hobey Baker Award. We wish him well in his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO MR. TOM SCHEPERS

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2001

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the tremendous achievement by a constituent of mine from South St. Paul, Minnesota, Mr. Tom Schepers.

Last November, on Veterans' Day, the Washington, D.C. area welcomed Tom Schepers, as he completed his 5-month, 3,300 mile run in support of the World War II Veterans Memorial. Beginning at Camp Pendleton, California on D-Day, June 6th, 2000, Mr. Schepers covered 25 miles a day, 6 days a week through the Mojave Desert, thin Rocky Mountain air and other extreme conditions. This was no ordinary run. While many Americans would struggle to complete even a single day of such an exhaustive journey, Mr. Schepers completed it while carrying an American flag and a POW/MIA flag on a 10-foot flagpole as well as a 10 lb weight belt, representing the emotional weight borne by the World War II Veterans for over 50 years.

Mr. Schepers heroic story is a tribute to the will and determination of our nation's Vet-

erans. A decorated Vietnam Marine Veteran, earning the Purple Heart and Bronze Star, Mr. Schepers was shot through the leg and foot while saving a fallen comrade. He was not expected to ever walk again, let alone run. But through commitment, sheer determination and pushing himself to his physical limits, he battled back to health. Today, he devotes much of his time assisting ailing Veterans and working to raise awareness to issues of importance for all Veterans. He has logged over 3,500 miles while running for both Vietnam, and Korean War Veterans, in between working as a registered nurse and keeping-up with his three grown children, Melissa, Jennifer and Matthew.

Although Mr. Schepers' story may be news to many, the plight of our World War II Veterans is too frequently forgotten. According to the Veterans of Foreign Wars, of the 16 million Americans that served in World War II, 672,000 were injured and 406,000 died. Each day of freedom we live, we owe to them. Mr. Schepers' tribute to this great American generation is a welcome sight, and one that all Americans must not take for granted.

As the spouse of a Vietnam Veteran, it is both a privilege and an honor to recognize Mr. Schepers for his dedication to our nation's Veterans and for his unwavering commitment to our country. All Veterans deserve our full, undivided respect and admiration for the sacrifices they have made to preserve our freedom. Tom Schepers is a hero for his service as well as for the gratitude he has demonstrated for those who have served our country.

TRIBUTE TO COACHES VS. CANCER FUNDRAISERS JULI AND JIM BOEHEIM

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2001

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, seven years ago, a group of NCAA basketball coaches gathered to create Coaches vs. Cancer, an effort dedicated to reducing the risk of cancer in youth and raising funds to assist in the research, patient services, advocacy, and prevention programs of the American Cancer Society. Since its inception, Coaches vs. Cancer, now a formalized partnership between the National Association of Basketball Coaches and the American Cancer Society, has raised millions of dollars nationally.

In Central New York, Syracuse University Men's Basketball Coach Jim Boeheim began his longtime involvement in the effort during the 1995-1996 season. In its first year of existence, Coach Boeheim's group raised a record for first year programs nationally and finished second in local contribution totals across the country. In its second season, the Syracuse program became the national effort's largest local fundraiser, an honor the Central New York program holds even to this day. Coach Boeheim currently serves as National Chair of the Coaches vs. Cancer Council.

In addition to Coach Boeheim's advocacy and support, the Syracuse chapter owes its

success to the work of Juli Boeheim. Since beginning her involvement, Juli Boeheim has chaired numerous fundraising and public awareness events, including creating the Coaches vs. Cancer Basket Ball Black Tie Gala, which has netted over \$350,000 over the past two years. Both Jim and Juli Boeheim have traveled regionally and nationally on behalf of the organization and assist in recruiting additional coaches and their spouses to become involved. They have filmed public service announcements, made numerous hospital visits, and attended dozens of public awareness events on behalf of the organization.

Jim and Juli Boeheim's leadership has allowed the Syracuse University Coaches vs. Cancer program to raise close to \$2 million for the local programming of the American Cancer Society. As the Home Builders Association of Central New York prepares to honor the Boeheims for their longtime work at its annual Parade of Homes Preview Party on May 31st, it is my privilege to recognize Jim and Juli Boeheim for their leadership—on both a national and local level—within the Coaches vs. Cancer organization.

TRIBUTE TO MR. IRV REFKIN

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2001

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a good friend from the San Diego area, Mr. Irv Refkin. Irv will be celebrating his 80th birthday next month and I wanted to take this time to say congratulations.

Irv has lived in Coronado for 20 years and has always been a great supporter of the San Diego community and all its causes. He has never been afraid to speak his mind and when you ask his opinion, you better be prepared to get it.

For five decades, Irv has been involved with the U.S. Navy and several aspects of shipbuilding and repair. Since 1976, Irv has been President of Pacific Defense Systems, a very important ship repair company in National City, California, where he is responsible for all operations. Throughout his service, I can always count on Irv to come up with innovative ideas that help the little guys.

I enjoy working and knowing Irv. He is a world traveler, having just returned from a trip to South Africa, Rome and Madrid, knows how to enjoy fine dining, and is a tremendous asset to the San Diego community. Happy 80th birthday Irv.

HONORING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF ROY AND FERN BARNES

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2001

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Roy and Fern Barnes of Pasadena, Texas as they celebrate their 60th Wedding